

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EA:ROC:BLEV;N:BDS

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ACDA - MR CRUMP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, TW, US

SUBJECT: ROC ATTENDANCE AT THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE

REF: TAIPEI 1297

1. AS RESULT IMPRESSION REPORTED PARA 3 REFTEL, WE CALLED IN ROC EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY PAUL TSO AND REITERATED OUR ADVICE THAT THE ROC NOT ATTEND THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE AND THE REASONING BEHIND IT. WE ALSO GAVE TSO A PRELIMINARY RUN-DOWN ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WHICH MIGHT ARISE IN THE REVIEW CONFERENCE AND PROMISED CONTINUED AND DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ROC ON CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS.

2. TSO SAID GROC WA" STILL CONSIDERING THE MATTER. HE ASKED ABOUT THE BASIS FOR OUR ASSESSMENT THAT ROC CHANCES FOR ATTENDING THE REVIEW CONFERENCE WERE VIRTUALLY NIL. WE REVIEWED THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF OUR SOUNDINGS AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED GENEVA PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. WE TOLD TSO THAT OF THE ELEVEN DELEGATIONS TO THE PREPARATORY

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CONFERENCE WHOSE VIEWS ON THE ISSUE WE HAD DIRECTLY OR

INDIRECTLY ASCERTAINED, ONLY ONE, THE PHILIPPINES, SEEMED
WILLING TO VOTE FOR ROC ATTENDANCE. TSO MENTIONED THE

POSSIBILITY OF SUPPORT FROM L.A DELEGATIONS, BUT DID NOT
DISPUTE OUR PESSIMISTIC READING OF ROC CHANCES.

3. WE INFORMED TSO THAT SUBJECTS LIKELY TO ARISE AT THE
REVIEW CONFERENCE INCLUDED DISARMAMENT, TRADE AND ASSIS-
TANCE IN NUCLEAR MATTERS, NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL
PURPOSES AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR NUCLEAR MATERIALS.
THE US WOULD SEEK TO DISCOURAGE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION OF
CHEMICAL REPROCESSING PLANTS. IT WOULD ARGUE THAT AT
LEAST ANOTHER DECADE IS REQUIRED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
COMMERCIAL SCALE FAST BREEDER REACTORS WHICH UTILIZE
PLUTONIUM AND IN THE INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR MULTI-
NATIONAL REPROCESSING FACILITIES SHOULD BE DEVISED.

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